

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Currently Amended) A power converter for stepping down and converting AC voltage to DC voltage,

said power converter comprising:

first and second input connections for inputting output of said AC voltage;

a first capacitor and a second capacitor interposed in series on a first electric connection line between said first input connection and said second input connection, in order from a side of said first input connection;

a first diode interposed between the first capacitor and said second capacitor on said first electric connection line so that its forward direction is toward said second input connection;

a second diode interposed on a second electric connection line so that its reverse direction is toward said second input connection, said second electric connection line connecting a point between said first capacitor and said first diode on said first electric connection line, and said second input connection;

a first output connection for output of said DC voltage, which is connected between said first diode and said second capacitor on said first electric connection line; and

a second output connection for output of said DC voltage, which is connected to said second input connection, and

a third capacitor, one end of which is connected between said first capacitor and said first diode on said first electric connection line, and the other end of which is connected to said second input connection.

2. (Previously Presented) The power converter as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a Zener diode interposed between said first output connection and said second output connection so that its forward direction is toward said first output connection.

3. (Currently Amended) The power converter as set forth in claim 2, further comprising:

a resistor interposed ~~on~~ along said first electric connection line ~~on a side closer to said first input connection than a position of connection with said second electric connection line~~ delimited by a point of connection at said first and second electric connection line and the first input connection.

4. (Previously Presented) The power converter as set forth in claim 3, wherein said resistor is a thermistor.

5.-7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The power converter as set forth in ~~claim 5~~ claim 1, wherein

a capacity ratio of said first capacitor to said third capacitor is set to about 1:1.

9. (Currently Amended) The power converter as set forth in ~~claim 6~~claim 2,  
wherein

a capacity ratio of said first capacitor to said third capacitor is set to about 1:1.

10. (Currently Amended) The power converter as set forth in ~~claim 7~~claim 3,  
wherein

a capacity ratio of said first capacitor to said third capacitor is set to about 1:1.

11.-18. (Canceled)

19. (Previously Presented) The power converter as set forth in claim 1, wherein  
a capacity ratio of said first capacitor to said second capacitor is set to 1:1000.